

Anchorage Underage Drinking Survey

**Assessing Attitudes, Values, and
Beliefs about the Underage Drinking
Problem and Responses to It**

**Town Hall Meeting
Sponsored by CMCA
April 17, 2012**

Marny Rivera, Ph.D.

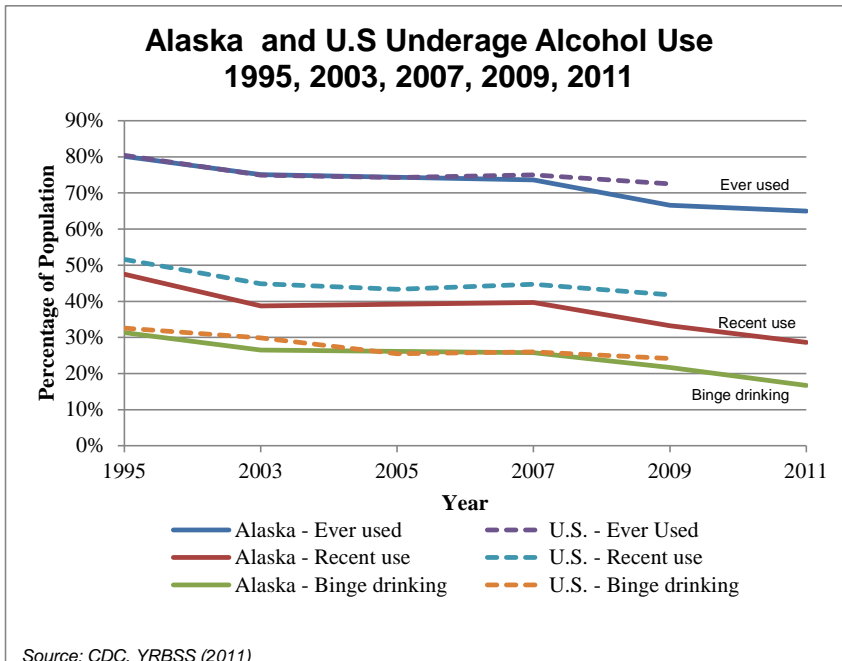


Today's Topics

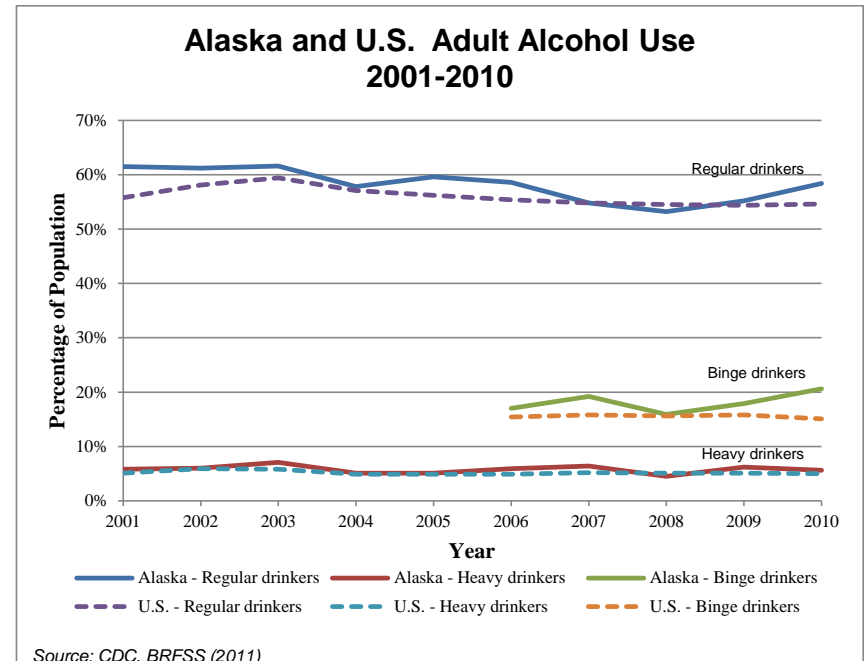
- Underage alcohol problem: Trends in Alaska and United States
- Survey Overview
- Survey Results:
 - Underage Drinking Problem
 - Adult Influences on Underage Drinking
 - Responses to the Underage Drinking Problem

Alcohol Problem

Underage



Adult



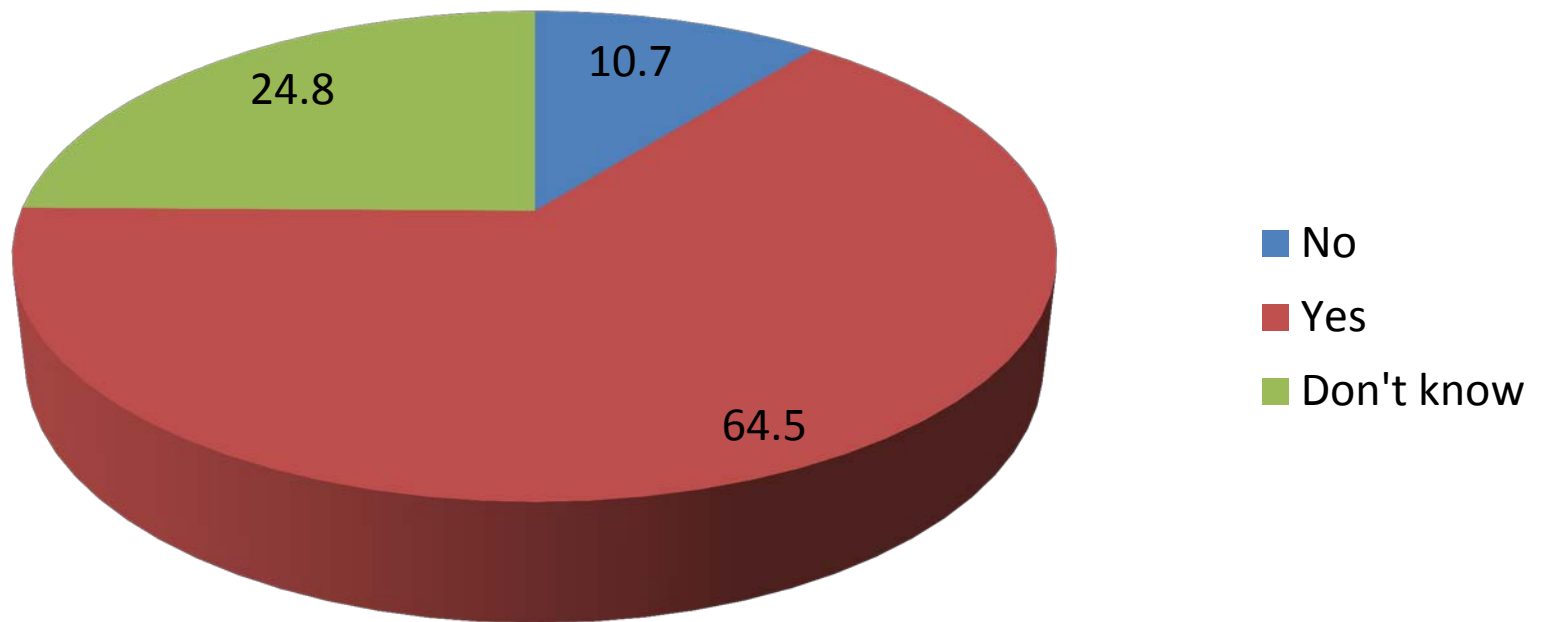
Survey Overview

Survey Topics

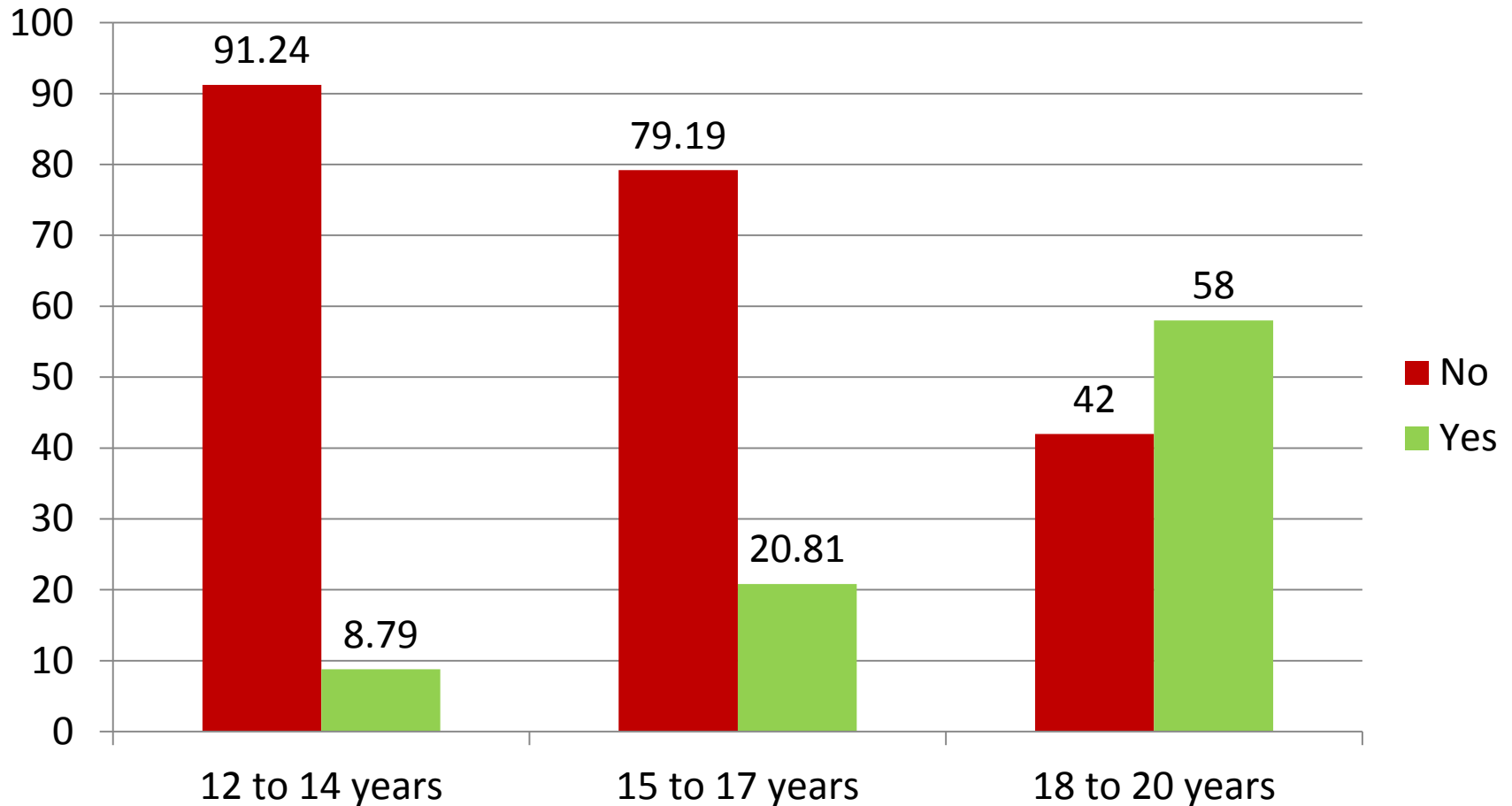
- Problem of underage drinking
- Adult influences
- Consumption
- Responses
- Media exposure
- Background
- 113 questions
- Conducted 2010 - 2011
- Scientific survey of adult perceptions of underage drinking
- Random sample of adult Anchorage residents
- 1,516 completed surveys

UNDERAGE DRINKING PROBLEM

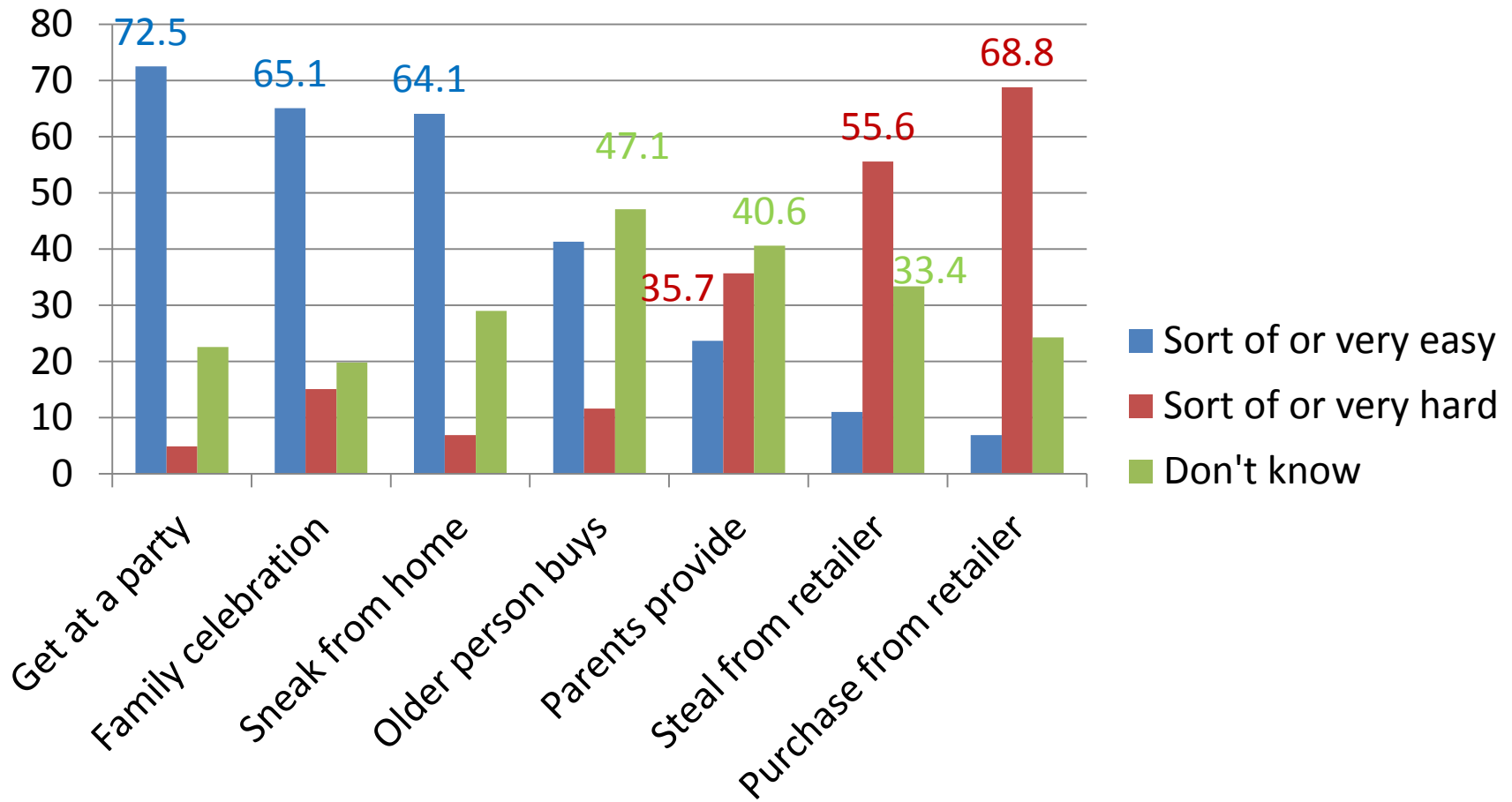
Underage Drinking is a Serious Problem in this Community



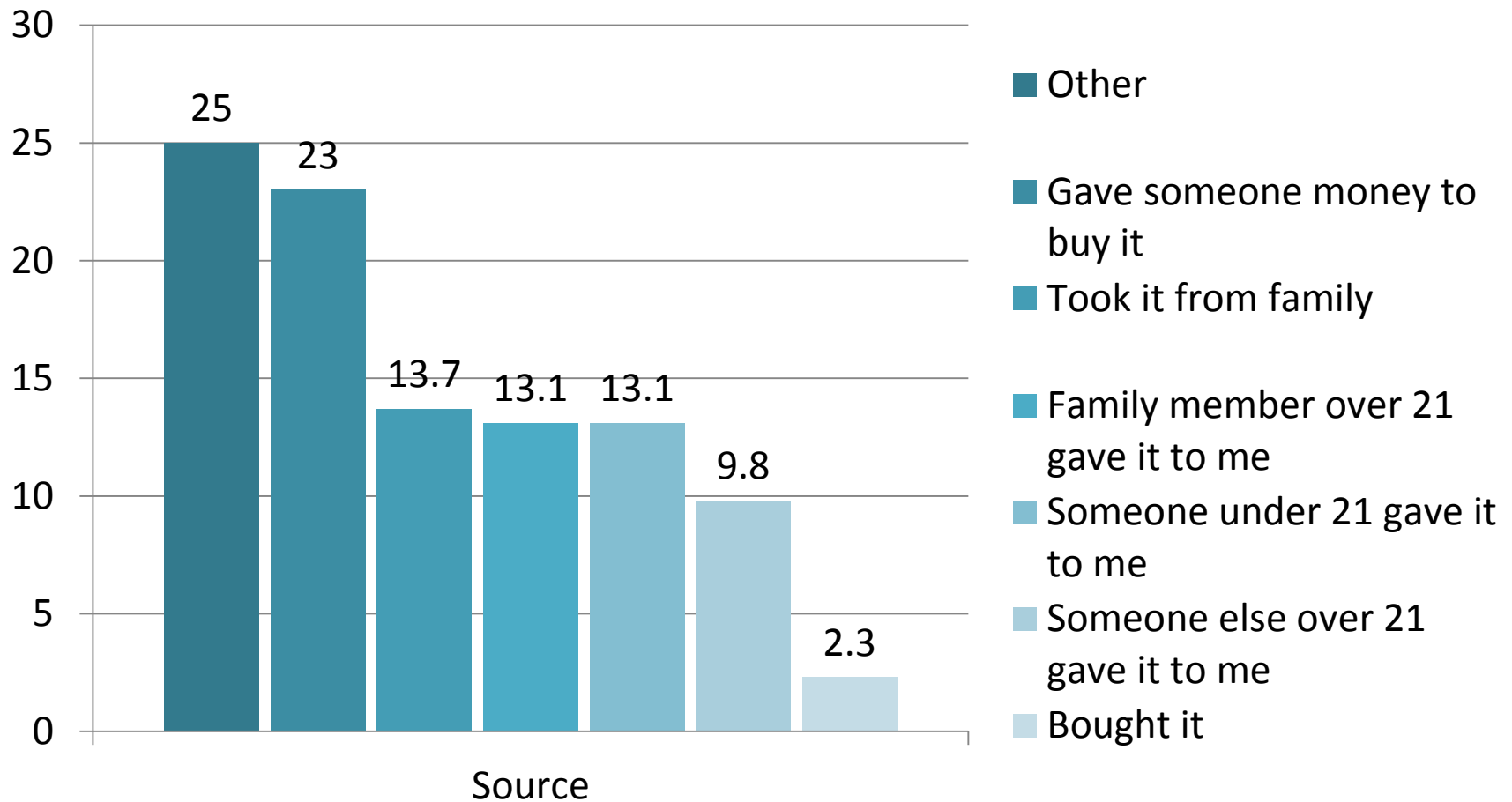
Acceptability of Drinking by People in Various Age Groups



Ease of Alcohol Access

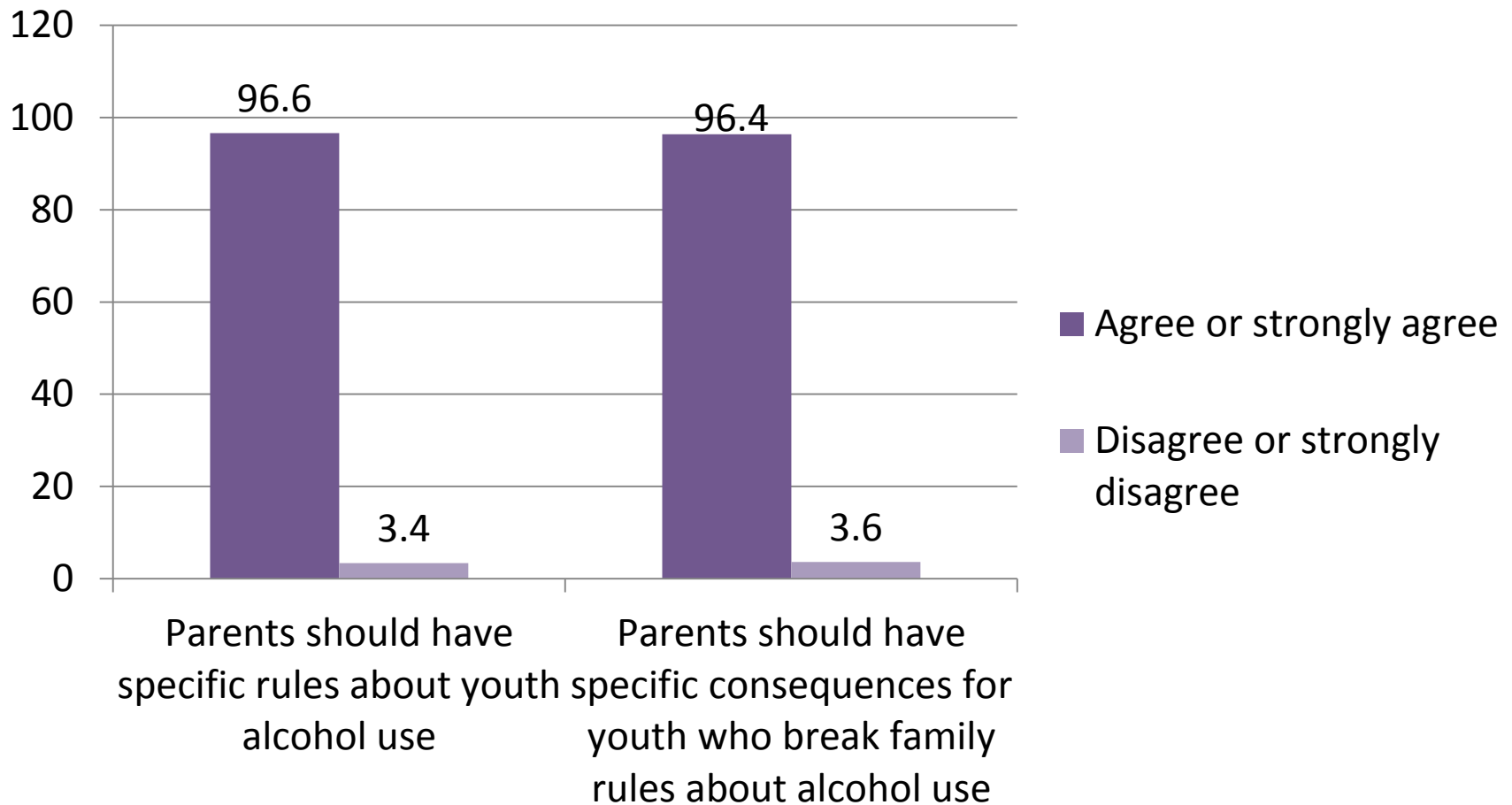


How Teens Report Obtaining Alcohol

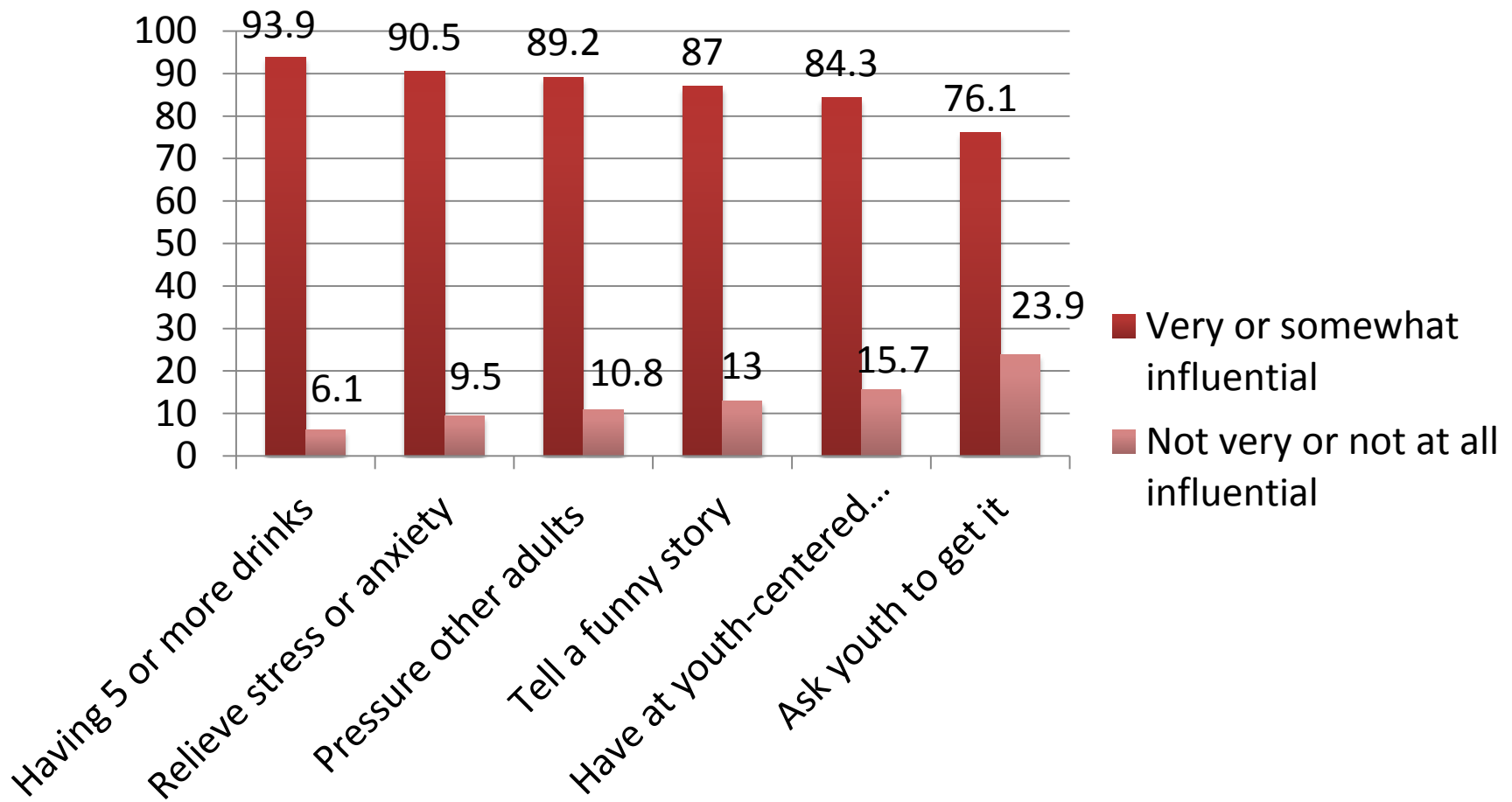


ADULT INFLUENCES

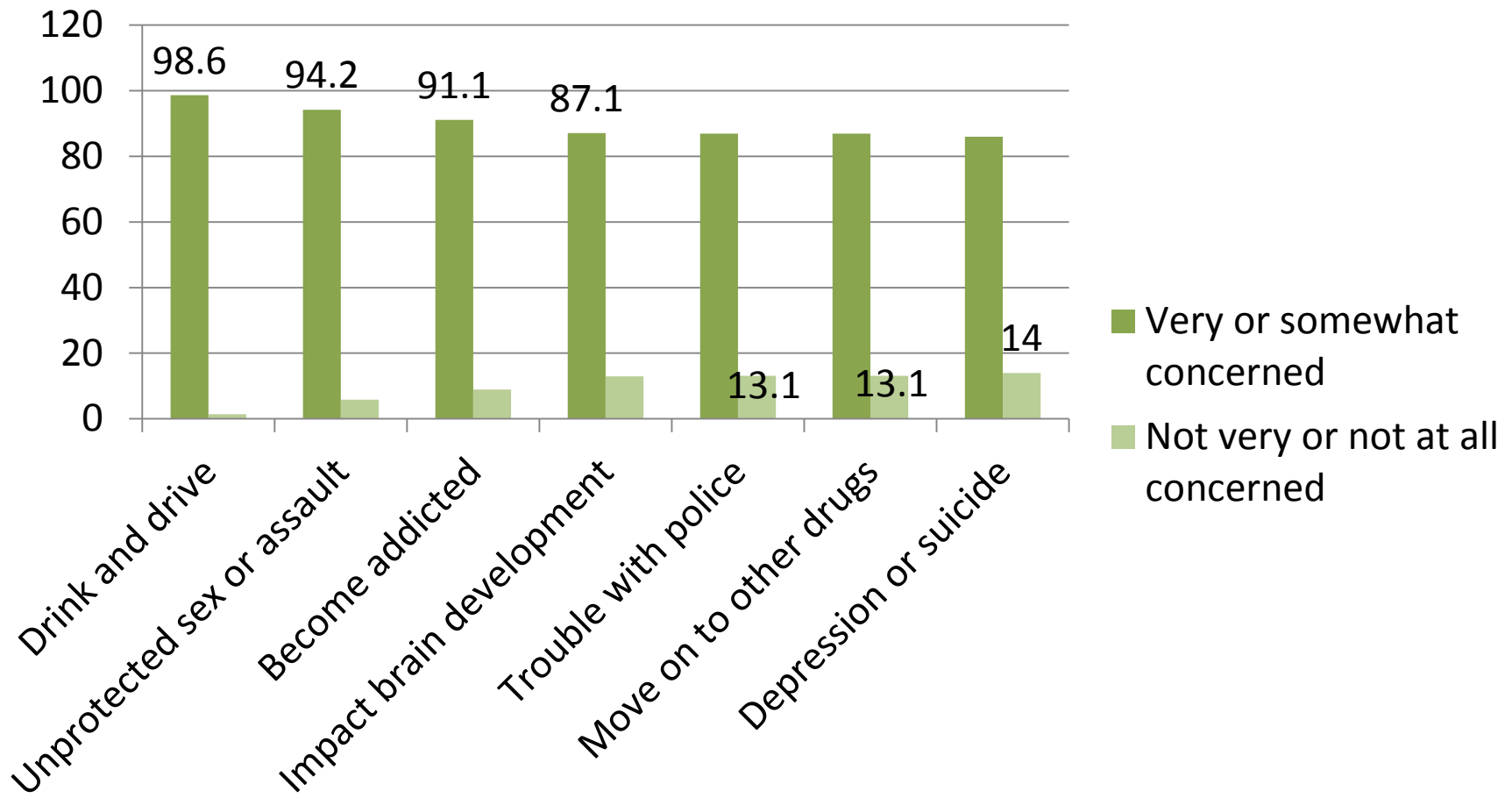
Parental Rules & Consequences



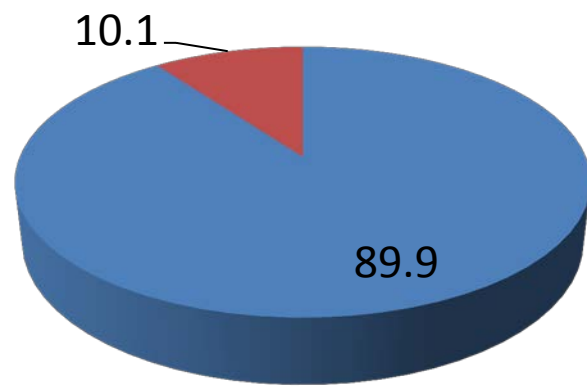
Parental Influence on Underage Drinking



Risks of Underage Drinking

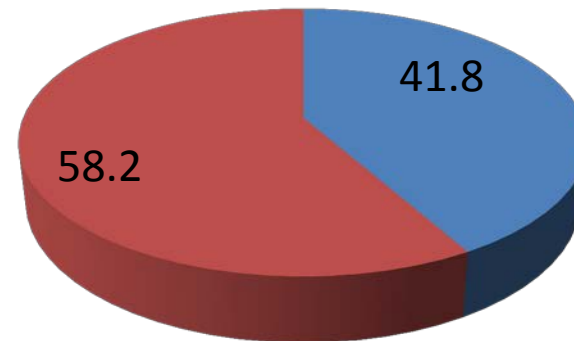


Knowledge of parents or adults who permit anyone under age 21 to consume alcohol under their supervision



Knowledge of parents or adults who permit their own children under the age of 21 to consume alcohol under their supervision

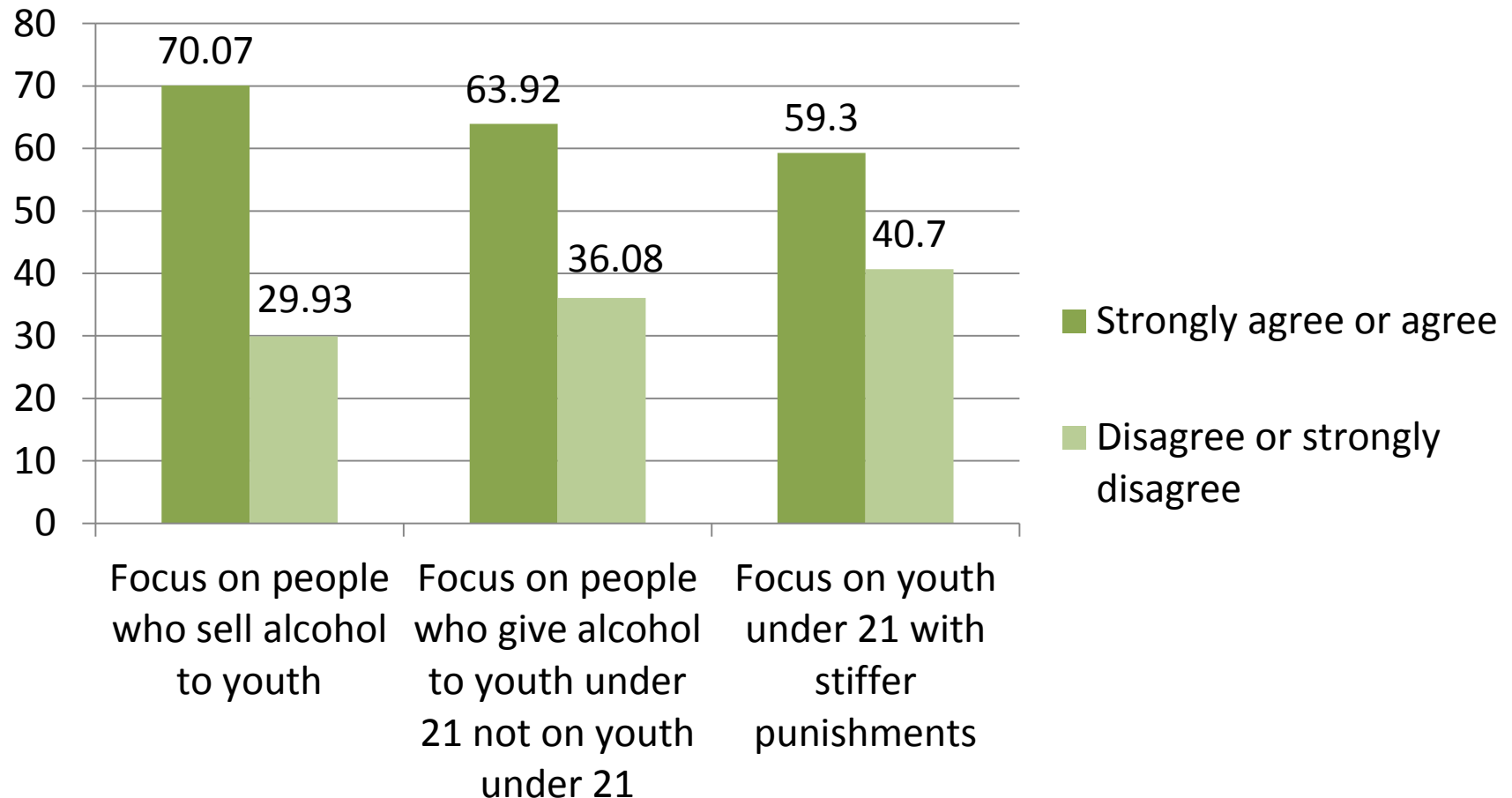
■ No
■ Yes



■ No
■ Yes

RESPONSES TO UNDERAGE DRINKING

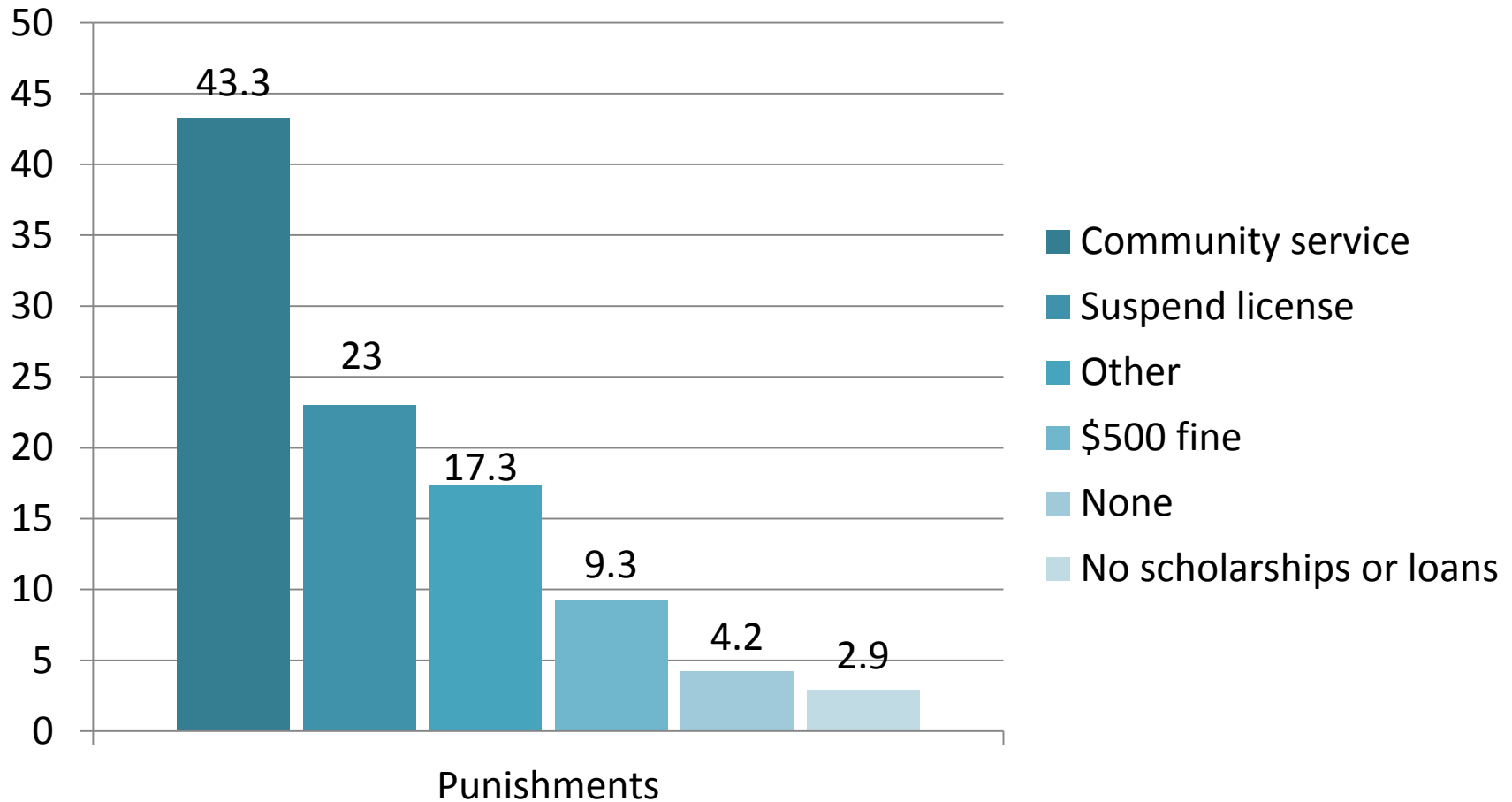
Focus of Underage Drinking Policies



Actual Punishment For Adults who Furnish

- 1 year in jail
- \$10,000 fine
- Second offense:
 - 5 years in jail
 - \$50,000 fine

Appropriate Punishment for Underage Drinking



Actual Punishment for Underage Drinking

- **First offense**: Suspended sentence with one year of probation or probation until 21 years, whichever is later
 - Can be combined with: Counseling, education, treatment, or community service
- **Second offense**: Fine of \$200 to \$600, attendance of alcohol information school, probation sentence

Conclusions

- We see underage drinking as a serious problem only for youth 17 and under
- Our perceptions of youth access to alcohol generally match their reports: Adults (often knowingly) provide alcohol to youth in social situations
- Parents need to have specific rules and consequences associated with alcohol use
 - Starting talking to youth early

Conclusions

- We recognize adult alcohol use influences underage drinking
- Most concerning consequences: Driving, sex, addiction, and brain development
- Most of us know someone who allows supervised alcohol consumption by their child

Conclusions

- We favor lenient sanctions focused on adults who provide social and/or retail access to alcohol by underage youth
 - Over serious sanctions and those directed at underage youth

Contact

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